THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) and (b) During the last three years, 278 Officers were promoted from Group 'B' to Group 'A' of the Indian Customs & Central Excise Service, on ad-hoc basis. Out of these, 66 belong to SC and 10 to ST categories.

(c) Promotions are made on ad-hoc basis on the recommendations of the Departmental Screening Committee which normally meets once a year. Acutal orders of promotions are issued as and when vacancies arise, due to retirement etc. Supplementary meetings of the Departmental Screening Committee are held either due to. court orders, or revision of seniority of officers.

Violation of Discretionary Powers by Banks

4422. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN :
SHRI VIREN J. SHAH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Department of Banking Operation and Development (DBOD) of the Reserve Bank of India has pointed out in its recent Inspection Report that the loans and credit facilities were given by certain banks without proper assessment of the companies financial position and without adherence to sanction limits ;

(b) if so, what are the details of the Report;

(c) what are the details of loans and credit facilities given by each bank to each company ;

(d) whether any irregularities have been detected by the Reserve Bank of India in this regard and if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) what action has been taken against the officials of each bank for gross violation of discretionary powers and also against peisons/ dompanies involved- in such transactions;- and

(f) what are the details of instructions issued by the Reserve Bank of India in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) to (f) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available and permissible under the Rules.

Value of Rupee

4423. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA :
DR. BAPU KALDATE :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the existing rupee value against the European currencies as also against the Asian currencies;

(b) what is the extent of the fall in the rupee value since the beginning of 1994 as against the European and Asian currencies ; and

(c) whether with the fall in the rupee value, Government contemplate to devalue the rupee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY) : (a) and (b) The exchange rate of the rupee against important Asian and European currencies as on December 31, 1993 and April 8, 1994 as also the rate of depreciation/appreciation of the rupee against these currencies are set out in Statement (see below).

(c) Under the unified exchange rate system introduced in March, 1993 the exchange rate of the rupee is determined by the forces of demand and supply in the foreign exchange market rather than by any deliberate policy stance.

Statement

Exchange Rate of the Rupee

Sr. No.	Currencies	Rate as on 31-12-93	Rate as on 8-4-94	Appreciation (+)/ Depreciation (—1
1.	Paund Sterling	46.4450 .	46.2388	+0.45
2.	Deutsache Mark	18.0863	18.3263	—1.31